created by the floods of 1099 and (5) the maintenance and repair of a large number of *chiras* at Government cost.

The Number of Veterinary Surgeons in each Hospital.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

53. Are there more than one Veterinary Surgeon in each of the Hospitals? If not, when the Surgeon is at large, what arrangements have been made for the treatment of animals brought in his absence?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

No, but there is an additional Surgeon who is for the time being posted at Trichur. When the Surgeon is at large, the following arrangements are in vogue for the treatment of animals brought to the Hospital in his absence:—

The compounders of the Hospital will look after the routine cases of the Hospitals, such as prescriptions of cases that are already examined by the Surgeon and attend on cases that are daily dressed.

As regards new cases brought during the absence of the Surgeon, the compounder has instructions to attend on such cases as external injuries, wounds, ulcers, sores, &c.

In regard to other cases requiring examination by the Surgeon, the owners of animals are asked to detain the animal in the Hospital or bring the same again when the Surgeon returns to Head-quarters. In the matter of very urgent cases that require immediate attention, such as parturition, serious accidents, etc., the compounders are given strict instructions to give immediate intimation to the Surgeon.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

In the matter of urgent cases that require immediate attention the compounders are asked to give immediate information to the Surgeon. May I know who the Surgeon is?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

Do you mean when the Surgeon is not in the camp, i. e., out of his jurisdiction?

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

There is only one Surgeon for the whole State. He must be given intimation. He will not be able to do full justice to all the animals. Is he likely to give information about his movements?

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Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

He will leave information behind to the compounder so as to enable them to find him out.

Mr. T. A RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

We have to depend upon the compounder. In our State we have only an Assistant Surgeon. We have to depend upon the compounders.

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

The compounder can conveniently attend to urgent cases.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

The difficulty is that he cannot attend himself.

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

The Surgeon will come out of his camp. That is the case in all the Hospitals. In Veterinary Hospitals there is only one Surgeon, while, in other Hospitals, there are Hospital Assistants.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

Not in all.

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

Here we have only compounders.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

In the majority of the Hospitals, there are no assistants.

The Transfer of the Veterinary Department to the Agricultural Department.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR

54. On what grounds was the Veterinary Department transferred from the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer to that of the Agricultural Superintendent ?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON.

The grounds of transfer are explained in the Diwan's Proceedings, Local and Legislative Department, C. No. 773/98, dated 9th August 1923, which will be found published in the Cochin Government Gazette, dated 26th Karkadagam 1098.

The Qualification of the Agricultural Superintendent to become the Veterinary Head.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

55. What qualification has the Agricultural Superintendent to become a Veterinary Head? What does he know about medicine and its application to the profession ? And how is he competent to inspect and check the vagaries, if any, of his subordinates—professional Veterinary Surgeons ?

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